

# ● 'Your Excellency'

To the Editor:

John Budris (Op-Ed, Oct. 17) says that, following the announcement of the Nobel Prize Committee's decision, the Lithuanian President, Vyautas Landsbergis, sent a congratulatory telegram to Mikhail S. Gorbachev, addressing him as "Your Majesty." Since such an address is reserved for monarchs, readers would be justified in concluding that President Landsbergis was mocking President Gorbachev and his award.

In fact, the salutation in Lithuanian was "Jusu Prakilnybe," properly translated as "Your Excellency," similar to "the Honorable."

Far from ridiculing Mr. Gorbachev, President Landsbergis extended his hand in peace and friendship, a fitting gesture, given the occasion, and a noble one, given the recent history of Lithuanian-Soviet relations.

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Director

Lithuanian Information Center  
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